

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR GENERATING POWER FROM MOVING WATER

ABSTRACT

Apparatus for generating power from a water current in a body of water comprises a

5 longitudinally extending flotation platform for maintaining the apparatus afloat in the body of water and a water turbine operatively carried by the platform for generating power in response to water current in the body of water. The platform is configured to enhance the flow of water current over the turbine blades and, as well, to enable a number of like platforms each with an associated turbine or turbines to be arrayed in a cooperative manner. The water turbine may

10 comprise a turbine rotor with a plurality of relatively narrow, flexible elongated blades arranged in circumferentially spaced rows extending along the rotor. In each row, the blades are distanced from each other in succession by a space. The rows may be staggered with respect to each other such that the blades in a given one of the rows circumferentially align with the spaces between blades in the row immediately circumferentially forward of the given row and

15 with the spaces between blades in the row immediately circumferentially rearward of the given row.